(1) whether they have received a petition dated 8th Mithunam 1104 from the public of Chittur praying for the reconsideration of the suitability of the site selected for the Girls' School;

(2) whether they have enquired into the reasons given therein ; and

(3) what the conclusion they have come to ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(1) Yes.

(2) and (3). The matter is being enquired into by the Director of Public Instruction.

Acquisition for the Tiruvilluamala Girls' School.

146. Mr. T. K. Nayar.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) whether the Director of Public Instruction ever visited the plot that is proposed to be acquired for the Girls' School, Tiruvilluamala ;

(2) what action was taken on the complaint made by the owner of the above plot?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(1) Yes.

(2) The acquisition of the plot originally proposed was dropped and another site selected.

Opening of a canal for irrigation purposes.

147. Mr. K.T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) what orders have been passed on the petition, dated Chingam 5, 1104, from Mr. Nambalat Sankunni Panikkar and the people of Kunnamkulam, Mangad and Porkkulam, submitted to the Chief Engineer regarding the opening of a canal for irrigation ;

(b) whether the above work will be undertaken in the ensuing year ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) and (b). A copy of the order is placed on the Table (*Vide Appendix II.*)

Devadasi system.

148. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform :—

(1) whether the 'Devadasi' system is in existence in any part of the State ;

(2) and if so, whether the Government have received in the last four years any representation praying for its abolition ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—In what parts of the State is the system in existence?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—In the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk and the Cranganur Taluk.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—How many requests were there?

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(b) & (c). There is a general rule that the tiles, cement, steel are to be supplied departmentally. In cases where it is found detrimental to the interests of the Government, or where the supply to be made is comparatively small or where such a supply will cause delay to works, the contractors are allowed to make their own arrangements for the supply.

Action taken against the Assistant Engineer.

150. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state what is the action taken against the Assistant Engineer for having submitted the completion report of the canal referred to in question No. 268 of the Legislative Ssession of 1104?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Final orders have not yet been passed.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know how long was this matter pending with the Government?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The final report of the Chief Engineer was received on 4th January.

APPENDIX I.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 142.)

Statement of works executed in Narakkal constituency.

Serial No.	Name of work	Expenditure in 1101	Expenditure in 1102	Expenditure in 1103	Remarks
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Opening a new North to South canal with cross canals in Elangunnapuzha and Narakkal villages. Estimate amount Rs.36,500	11,490	8,500	250	
2	Deepening the water-way leading to Salt Depot at Malippuram	200	199	194	

APPENDIX II.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 147.)

P. No. 17 of 1104.

Office of the Chief Engineer,
Trichur,
19th July 1929.

Memo.

Ref.—Petition dated Chingam 5, 1104, from Mr. Nambalat Sankunni Panikkar and others of Kunnamkulam and adjoining villages requesting for

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the opening of a canal for benefit of their lands, forwarded by Mr K. T. Mathew, B. A., B. L., M. L. C.

2. Letter dated 17th Makaram 1104, from Mr. Panakkal Iyyakku Variath.

The petitioners are informed that an area generally reported to be suffering from drought during Mundakan season cannot be successfully converted into Punja cultivation irrigated by water brought lower down the drainage area. The proposed canal does not therefore promise to be of much use.

A further investigation will be conducted after watching the next Mundakan cultivation in this area.

(Sd)
For Chief Engineer,

To

The petitioners Mr. Sankunni Panikkar and others.
Through Mr. K. T. Mathew B. A., B. L., M. L. C.
Mr. Panakkal Iyyakku Variath.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, before we pass on to the next business, I have to make one request. I have been asking to have no meeting on Saturday. But that I do not want to repeat. The Council must go on. My only request is: supplementary questions cannot be put by any other Member than the Member putting the question; so any questions standing in my name may not be answered on Saturdays. I cannot put supplementary questions because I am not here and none of my friends can be asked to put supplementary questions because it is not allowed under the Rules. Hence I request that my questions may be answered on any day other than Saturday.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The questions are already in the Press.

President.—Are there any questions of Mr. Salem?.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not exactly remember.

President.—We have got the answers already printed, and we have got in advance Saturday's questions printed.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Supplementary questions may be put on the next working day. No other Member can put supplementary questions on his questions. So his questions answered on Saturdays may be put on some other day to put supplementary questions, so that he may not be disappointed. And in future,....

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—That may be done in future.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—This was our cry for a long time.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I do not think there was any formal request. If there is a formal request, it will be considered.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There was a suggestion and there was a formal request.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I sent a formal request that my motions

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